

Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner's allowance of claims 17, 18, 20-32, 40-43, 49 and 50 is noted with appreciation.

The Examiner has objected claim 46 as dependent on a rejected base claim but noted that the claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 46 has been amended to comply with this requirement and is believed to now be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as indefinite, but noted that if rewritten or amended to overcome this rejection, claims 1-8 would be allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the antecedent basis for the limitation of the claim noted by the Examiner as unclear. Claim 1 is now believed to be in condition for allowance and claims 2 – 8 as dependent thereon are also believed to be allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claims 9-11 as anticipated by Alperovich. Claims 9-11 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 12, 16, 33, 36-39, 44, 47 and 48 as anticipated by Kulkarni et al. Claims 12, 16, 33, 44, 47 and 48 have been cancelled. The applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection with respect to claims 36-39. Kulkarni et al. does not disclose or suggest a system that "with respect to calls from the PSTN to mobile subscribers, has the same type of interface as the devices for communicating with the radio transceivers." Claim 36 has been amended to clarify the "same type of interface" as circuitry which "provides a virtual proxy for the set of devices for communicating with the radio transceivers". As disclosed in the present specification beginning on page 13, line 22 in the description of the embodiment shown in FIG. 2, the circuitry coupled to the interfaces is "acting as a proxy for radio ports belonging to other interface devices for terminating calls." Further describing the function of this element of the invention as claimed in claim 36, the circuitry coupled to the interfaces (referenced as the ATC in the embodiment shown) "may act logically like another radio port controller coupled to an interface device." The claimed limitation as now defined in the amended claim 36 is not disclosed in Kulkarni et al. Claim 36 has further been amended consistent with the Examiner's observation in objecting to claim 36 that "and" should be changed to "in" in line 15 of the claim.

With respect to claim 37, the applicants respectfully contend that for the reasons argued above with respect to claim 36 from which claim 37 depends, claim 37 is also allowable. Additionally, the Examiner's assertion that Kulkarni et al "also discloses that the circuitry... routes the call without interrogating a centralized database" is respectfully traversed. The citation by the Examiner to Col. 8 lines 11-17 specifically refers to the use of the HLR (Home Location Registers) which, as defined in col. 1 lines 7-17, clearly comprises a centralized database.

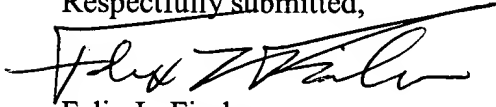
Claims 38 and 39 are allowable based on their dependency from claim 36 for the reasons stated above.

The Examiner has rejected claims 13, 15, 35, 45 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 13, 15, 35, 45 and 51 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed. It is known that in the art of cable telephony, a Host Digital Terminal maps telephone numbers to resources in the cable plant (e.g. specific timeslots on specific cable branches). As an example, if a cable telephony subscriber moves to a new house in a different town on the same cable system, but on a different physical cable, and desires to retain his current cable telephony telephone number, the present invention allows calls to his old telephone number to be dynamically routed to his new interface device without any changes in the PSTN. This avoids the extra work and costs to the telephone company for reassigning the telephone number to the new interface device and reprogramming the new interface device to map to the new cable location. All this requires is that the subscriber's telephone interface device (cable modem) "register" with the cable network. Most currently available cable modems already provide this capability (e.g. Cablevision's Optonline service requires the cable modem to send its MAC address to the headend to get service). A reference for cable telephony, "Cable Telephony: Offering Consumers Competitive Choice", National Cable & Telecommunications Association, July 2001, is enclosed herewith describing Voice over IP (VoIP) which incorporates this feature of cable systems.

The applicants believe that all claims now pending in the application as amended are in condition for allowance and action by the Examiner in that regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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